

NEW P. S. C. PLANS TO KEEP OUT OF GAS RATE SUITS

Motion to Substitute Commission as Defendants in Three Cases Goes Over.

When the motions to substitute the new Public Service Commission for the old commission as a defendant in the three pending gas rate cases came before Judge A. N. Hand in the Federal Court today, an adjournment was requested by E. M. Deegan, counsel for the new commission, who pleaded that Ledyard Hale, chief counsel, was in Albany and could not appear until Monday. Adjournment was granted with the consent of William L. Ransom for the New York Mutual Gas Light Company and Col. Dykman for the Brooklyn Union Gas and the Newtown Gas Companies. The motions will be heard on Monday before Judge Mayer.

That the new commission will avoid, if possible, being substituted as a co-defendant in gas rate litigation on the ground that the commission has no power to fix rates was shown today by Charles F. Deegan, who was quoted from a letter written by Mr. Hale to William W. Chambers, solicitor for the Attorney General, in pending gas rate cases. In this letter, the commission, through its counsel, advised Mr. Chambers that it will resist being made a party defendant to gas rate suits in court.

"While it is true," Mr. Hale wrote, "that the new commission has succeeded to the powers and in a general way to the duties of the former commission, it is only a half truth, because the new Public Service Law has created in the new commission a power and a duty, upon proper evidence, to increase gas rates above the statutory maximum. Having such power it would be improper for the commission to be subjected to any judgment which would be binding upon it."

"I do not propose to have the commission embarrassed in the exercise of its new jurisdiction, if I can avoid it. I don't think there is any propriety in the court continuing the commission as a defendant, and I am going to resist it as far as I am able. If the commission is made a party defendant, in spite of my resistance, I shall insist upon a very plain provision that the commission is substituted only so far as it is a successor of the former commission and that the new commission is not to be limited or controlled by any judgment or decree so far as any new authority has been vested in it by the new Public Service Law."

"The absence of the Public Service Commission in these gas rate cases will provoke additional burdens on the taxpayers," said Assistant Corporation Counsel James A. Donnelly, chief of the Franchise Division of the City Law Department. Mr. Donnelly explained that heretofore the appearance of the Public Service Commission as a co-defendant was of material aid in reaching higher gas rates. The commission supplied the official reports of the companies, furnished statistical information on gas properties and gave access at all times to the numerous technical phases of gas plants, equipment, maps, charts, computations, etc., he said.

Mr. Donnelly declared that the loss of the assistance from the Public Service Commission would place a heavy financial burden on the city in its fight against the higher rates, because experts have to be paid, engineers have to be hired, and examinations of gas plants, gas accounts and gas practices are never obtained free.

The withdrawal of the Public Service Commission from pending gas rate cases, Mr. Donnelly said, means that the city will have to organize a bureau with engineers and accountants to combat the experts of the gas corporations.

GERMS ON MIND WORSE THAN BODY, TEACHERS TOLD

Miss Patty Hill Warns Against Children Thinking Too Much About Them.

DETROIT, May 6.—Miss Patty S. Hill of the Teachers' College, New York City, urged teachers to guard against causing children "to think too much about germs," in an address yesterday before the twenty-eighth annual convention of the International Kindergarten Union.

"It is important to teach children to be clean and how to protect their health, but too much imagination is worse than disease," she said. "It is worse to have germs on the mind than on the body."

PRINTERS WIN PART OF FIGHT UP STATE

One Glens Falls Newspaper Gives In—Two Strikes in Chicago End.

GLENS FALLS, N. Y., May 6.—Commercial printers in this city have won part of their fight, the publishers of the Glens Falls Times having signed an agreement giving the employees of the job printing department a 44-hour week. As a result the Times is again being published.

The publishers of the Post-Star, a morning paper, have refused to sign the 44-hour week agreement, and the printers on the paper are still out.

CHICAGO, May 6.—Two of Chicago's May day strikes were settled today and the men returned to their jobs.

Livestock handlers who walked out Saturday returned to work today after submitting differences with their employers over a cut in wages to an arbitrator.

Union printers returned to work. Their demand for a forty-four hour week was granted, but they must accept a \$4.35 a week wage reduction. Compositors will get \$4.65; pressmen, \$4.75; feeders, \$3.65, and bookbinders, \$4.15. The printers and employers had a year-old agreement by which pay was to have been advanced May 1 to a standard of forty-eight hours pay for forty-four hours work. The agreement does not give them this, but cuts both their pay and their hours.

SUGAR DOWN TO 6.40, LOWEST SINCE 1914

Market Demoralized Despite Cuban Commission's Efforts to Stabilize Situation.

The Federal Sugar Refining Company today announced a reduction in the price of refined sugar to 6.40 cents a pound, wholesale. This is the lowest price refined sugar has sold at since 1914.

The raw sugar market continued practically demoralized despite the attempts of the recently appointed Cuban Financial Commission to stabilize the situation.

The Federal Sugar Refining Company, which has opposed the attempts of the Cuban Commission artificially to raise the price of sugar, stated today that "unsettling features, such as price guarantees and other inducements to stimulate refined buying, are of little or no benefit, and until the economic and financial situation improves, and values seek their true level, measured on a supply and demand basis, confidence in the sugar market will not be restored."

RIOT OVER BRITISH MANDATE.

The Zionist Organization of America has received the following cablegram regarding the recent riots in Jaffa, Palestine:

"On May 1 riots broke out in the old section of Jaffa, resulting in serious casualties. The Jewish labor procession, which had been sanctioned by the authorities, was entirely peaceful notwithstanding attempts of a handful of Communists to cause disturbances. Advantage was taken of the occasion for an attack on Jews in the streets and the pillaging of shops. The worst incident was the storming of the Immigrant House by a gang of rioters who attacked men, women and children. They were followed by Arab policemen, who penetrated into houses, shooting and stabbing defenseless people."

"The general testimony is that the Arab police participated; that the riots and murders were due to the fanaticism stirred up in the crowds by parties opposing British mandate over Palestine, and the establishment there of a Jewish National Home. The cities of Palestine are now under military control. Tel Aviv, a Jewish suburb of Jaffa, has been assigned to Jewish demobilized soldiers under a Jewish officer."

BABY LEFT ON DOORSTEP.

Note with Abandoned Infant Said Finder Would Be Lucky.

A two-month-old baby, wrapped in clothes of excellent quality, was found on the front steps of the apartment No. 318 Hart Street, Brooklyn, today by the janitor. The baby was turned over to the police, who sent him to Kings County Hospital, looking him "Jacob," because Policeman Jacob Weber had carried him to the Vernon Avenue station. A note pinned to the blanket around the child said: "The finder of this baby will be lucky. He is two months old and has no father and his mother is trying to earn a living for six children. His father died six months ago."

LOST 5 TEETH IN HOLD-UP.

Bandit's Shot Wound a Dentist's Bill for Victim.

Two men with handkerchiefs tied about their heads, held up Alexander Mistrak, twenty-five, of No. 185 Montrose Street, Brooklyn, a cane chair manufacturer last night and robbed him of \$25 in cash and jewelry valued at \$50. As they fled, Mistrak started after them. One of the bandits turned and fired. The bullet clipped Mistrak's upper lip, knocking out five teeth. This halted Mistrak, and the men escaped. The police believe the men are the ones who have committed other holdups in the neighborhood.

CURIO SALE CONTINUES.

Malay and Filipino swords, Polynesian poisoned arrows, lacina and spears, Persian, African and Japanese flintlocks, daggers, swords, helmets and other armor and Turkish and Persian weapons were among the offerings yesterday in the Anderson galleries at the second session for the sale of curios collected by Louis Bell. The 263 items brought \$2,572.

DAYLIGHT SAVING BARRED.

Connecticut House Passes Law to Fine Clock Owners.

HARTFORD, May 6.—The House late yesterday, as a climax to several false starts to punish Hartford for daylight saving, jammed through a new Wadsworth bill, which imposes fines of \$25 on officials who countenance daylight saving, and the same penalty on all persons doing business with the public and displaying clocks which are not an hour behind time. It is predicted that the Senate will kill the bill.

DIES FROM AUTO INJURIES.

Miss Mary E. Coughlin Was St. Thomas's Parish Secretary.

Miss Mary E. Coughlin, No. 41 East 20th Street, secretary of St. Thomas's Episcopal Parish, died today in Lenox Hill Hospital. Her skull was fractured Wednesday when she was knocked down in front of the church at Fifth Avenue and 55th Street by an automobile driven by William Stafford, of No. 144 Ninth Avenue. Aided by Mrs. E. J. Tammany, of No. 30 West 54th Street, Mr. Stafford lifted Miss Coughlin into his car and took her to Flower Hospital from which she was later transferred to Lenox Hill.

Mr. Stafford reported the accident but was not held. When official notice is received of Miss Coughlin's death he will be taken before a magistrate.

Voting on Reduced Wages by Street Car Employees.

DETROIT, May 6.—Street car and interurban employees of the Detroit United Railway in Flint, Pontiac, Mount Clemens, Ann Arbor and Dearborn, voted today on the company's proposal to reduce wages from 70, 73 and 75 cents an hour to 55, 58 and 60 cents. They had previously rejected the proposal, which was resubmitted by union heads with a recommendation that the reduction be accepted.



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MONDAY, MAY 9

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